

June 6, 2003

The Honorable Gene Mullin
California State Assembly
Capitol Building #2170
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 332 – COMPATIBLE LAND USES NEAR AIRPORTS - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Mullin:

On behalf of the City of Santa Barbara, which operates the Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, I would like to register our **SUPPORT** for **AB 332**. This proposal will help promote compatible land use and orderly development around airports by requiring school districts and community college districts to comply with airport land use laws.

Provisions of this bill that clarify the Legislature's intent to discourage incompatible land uses near existing airports and to have local agencies utilize the land use criteria established in the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook and by federal regulation are crucial to minimize the public's exposure to aircraft noise and safety hazards within areas around public airports where new development is proposed.

By requiring school districts and community college districts to comply with the airport land use laws of the State Aeronautics Act, the bill creates a level of consistency in land use law between all types of local agencies that might interact with an Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).

While the proposed legislation continues to allow a local government to overrule an ALUC decision by a 2/3 vote, it will help insure that the local government can make an informed decision by requiring the local government to notify the ALUC and Caltrans, and include their comments in the public record, when the agency proposes to overrule a Comprehensive Land Use Plan on the basis of inconsistency with a general or specific plan.

The City of Santa Barbara supports this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Dan Secord, MD
Mayor Pro Tempore

DO:hh

cc: Assembly Member Hannah-Beth Jackson
Senator Tom McClintock
League of California Cities, Jessica Mullan
Jim Armstrong, City Administrator
Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director
Don Olson, City Special Projects Manager